PRACTICING YOUR CHORDS

HOW TO PRACTICE ALL YOUR CHORDS

The Cycle Of Fifths

It is really important that you know all your chords and their inversions.

Using the chords in songs is helpful but if you really want to speed up the process you need to do set practice routines.

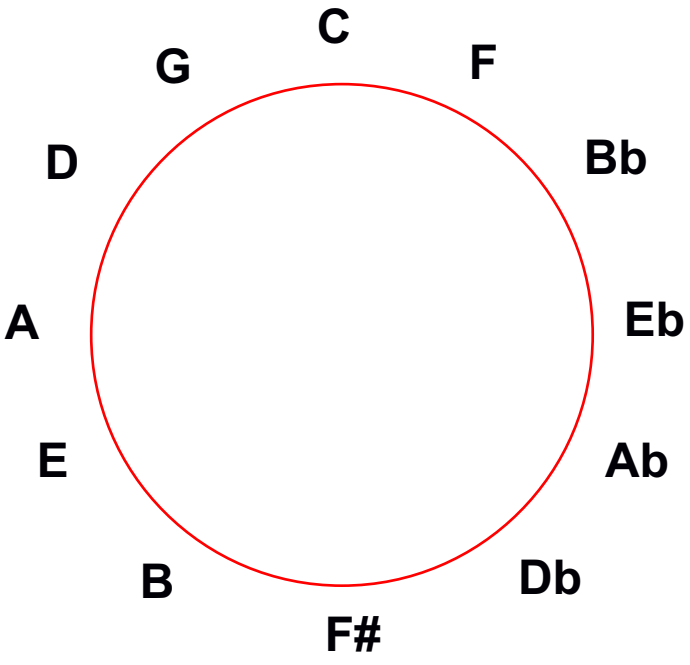
An excellent way to practice through ALL the chords and inversions is to use a device called the **CYCLE OF FIFTHS**

One of the most common occurrences in music of all kinds is the movement of two chords whose Root notes are a FIFTH apart (downwards).

For instance, one of the most common progressions has FOUR chords a fifth apart (in a downwards direction)

C to **Am** down a fifth to **Dm** down a fifth to **G** down a fifth to **C**

The complete circle looks like this. Try to MEMORISE it



If you think of the word '**BEAD**' that occurs TWICE in the cycle it will help you remember it

B E A D G C F B^{b} E^{b} A^{b} D^{b} $F^{\#}$

CYCLE OF FIFTHS CHORD PRACTICE 1

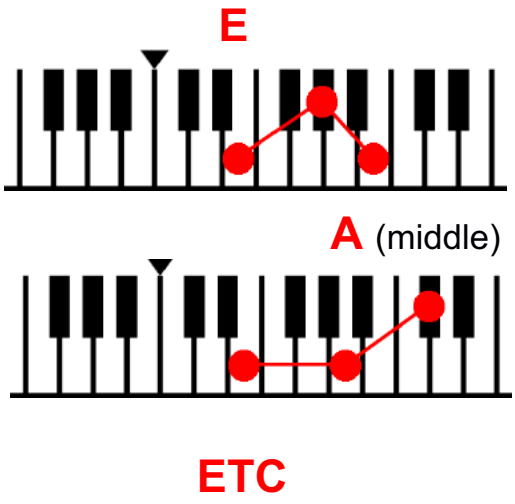
ROOT position followed by MIDDLE inversion

For instance...

ROOT

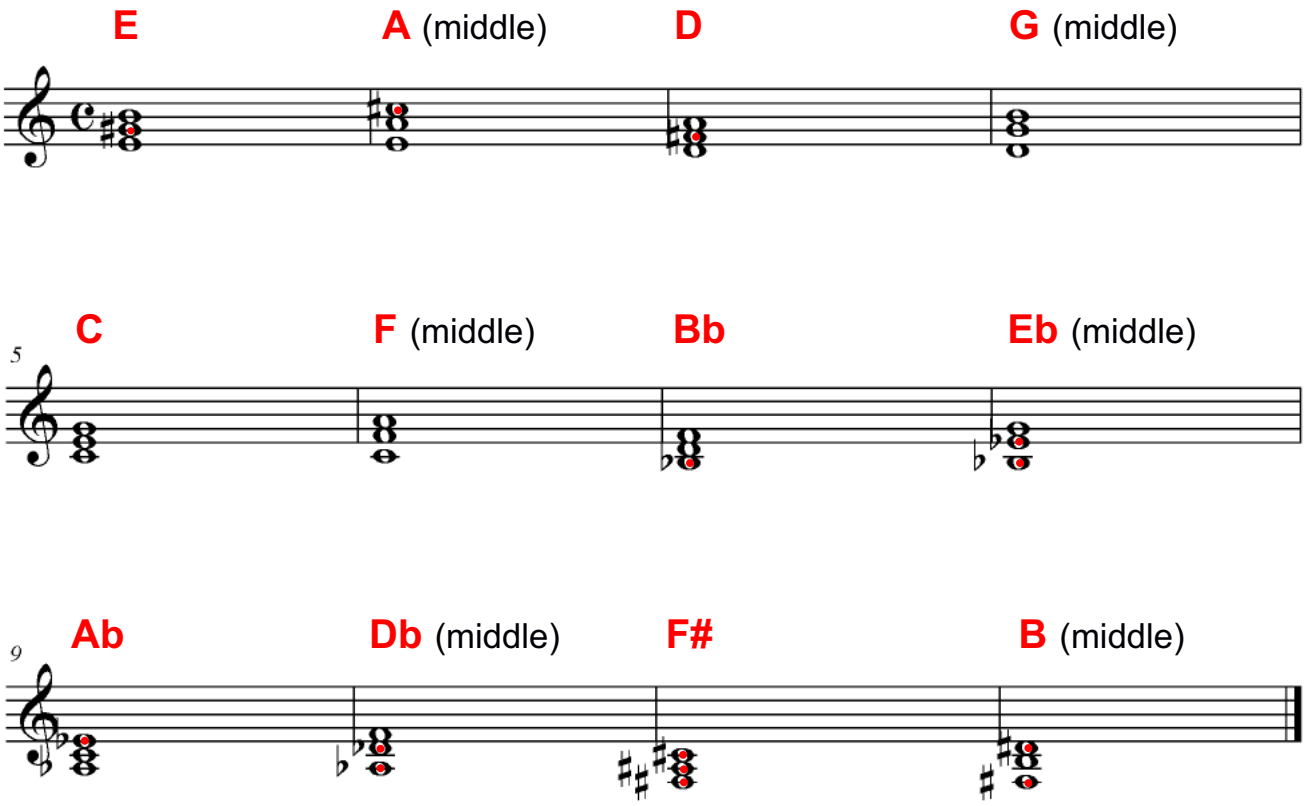
then

MIDDLE



ETC

CYCLE OF FIFTHS

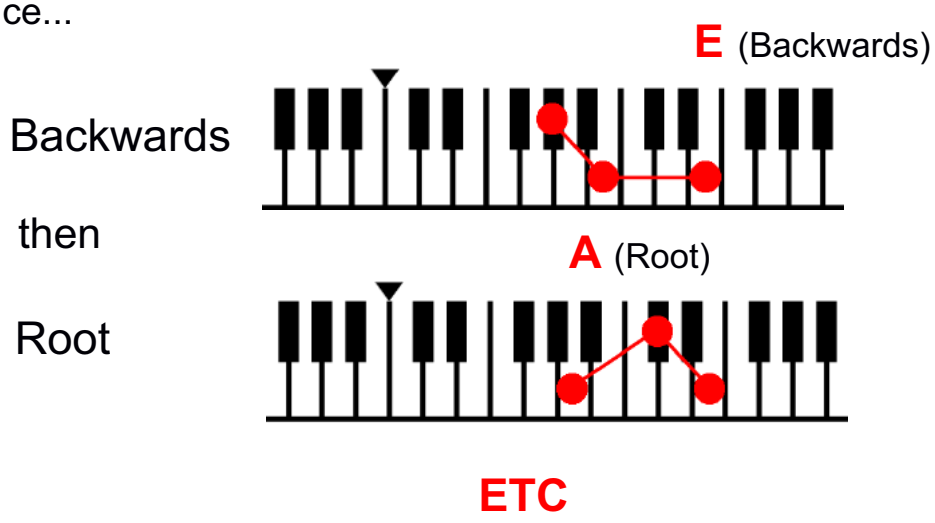


Now play the above again but change each chord to a MINOR

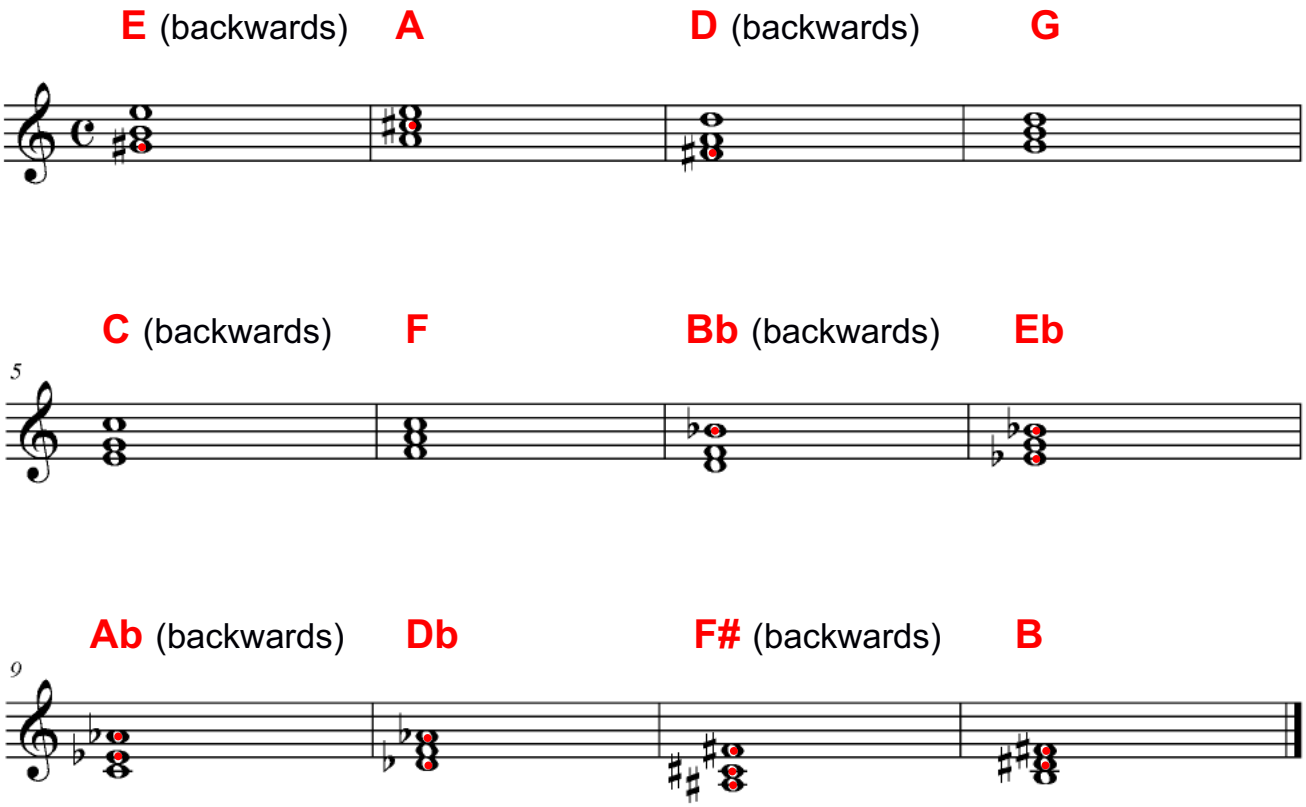
CYCLE OF FIFTHS CHORD PRACTICE 2

BACKWARDS Inversion followed by ROOT position

For instance...



CYCLE OF FIFTHS

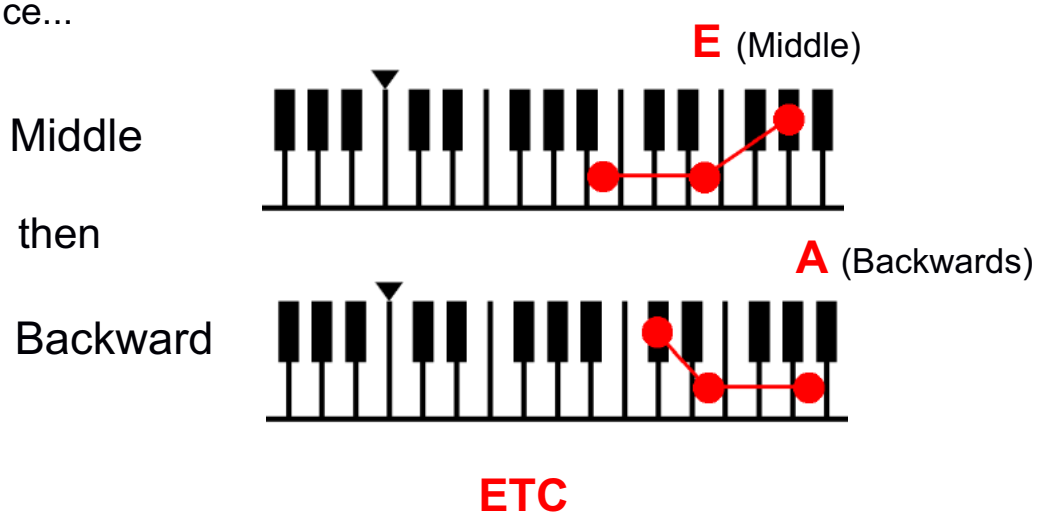


Now play the above again but change each chord to a MINOR

CYCLE OF FIFTHS CHORD PRACTICE 3

MIDDLE Inversion followed by BACKWARDS Inversion

For instance...



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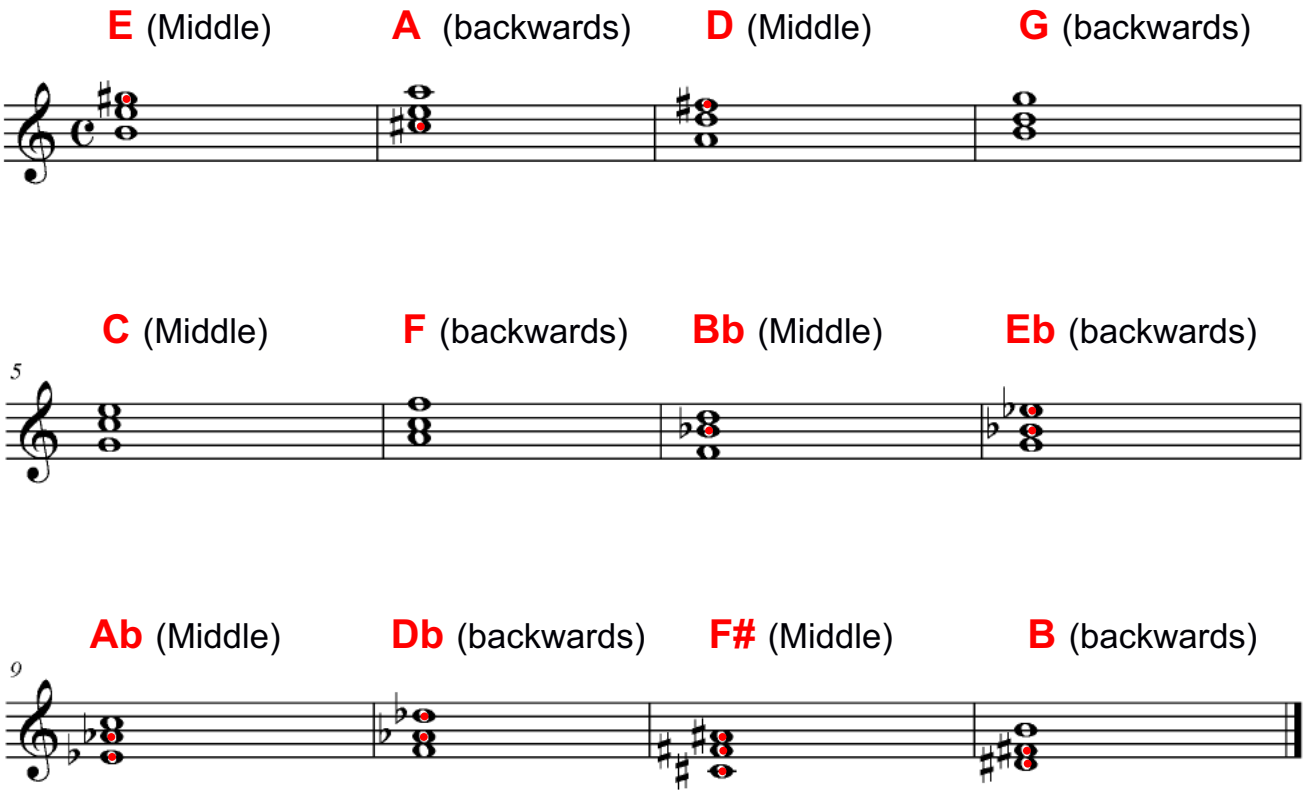
CYCLE OF FIFTHS



Now play the above again but change each chord to a MINOR

YOU ARE NOW
READY FOR SECTION 4